TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · · FOREST SERVICE

No. 458

Forest Area in Minnesota Counties

More than one-third of Minnesota is forested. By counties, commercial forest land ranges from about 1,000 acres in Pipestone County to more than 3 million acres in St. Louis County.

These and the forest area figures reported below are part of the results of the forest survey made during 1947-53 by the Office of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation and the Lake States Forest Experiment Station in cooperation with other public and private agencies. Other publications giving details of Minnesota timber volume, growth, and cut are available from the two agencies.

County	Total land area [1]	Forest land [2]			Commercial forest as a percent of county area
		Total [3]	Commercial [4]	Noncommercial [5]	
	M acres	M acres	M acres	M acres	Percent
Aitkin	1,167.4	942.1	893.9	48.2	76.6
Anoka	272.0	46.2	46.2	-	17.0
Becker	841.6	348.0	347.7	.3	41.3
Beltrami	1,610.9	1,258.5	1,220.2	38.3	75.7
Benton	258.6	49.9	49.0	.9	18.9
Big Stone	326.4	3.3	3.1	.2	.9
Blue Earth	473.6	37.7	37.7	-	8.0
Brown	392.3	21.0	20.8	.2	5.3
Carlton	550.4	390.5	369.4	21.1	67.1
Carver	229.1	26.5	26.5	-	11.6
Cass	1,313.9	1,021.0	1,017.9	3.1	77.5
Chippewa	372.5	6.1	6.1	-	1.6
Chisago	268.2	68.1	67.9	.2	25.3
Clay	672.0	19.3	19.3	-	2.9
Clearwater	643.2	399.1	379.6	19.5	59.0
Cook	897.9	867.3	722.8	144.5	80.5
Cottonwood	409.6	4.4	4.4	-	1.1
Crow Wing	639.4	465.0	459.4	5.6	71.8
Dakota	365.4	36.6	36.6	-	10.0
Dodge	278.4	14.1	14.1	-	5.1
Douglas	407.7	41.9	41.7	.2	10.2
Faribault	456.3	13.7	13.7	-	3.0
Fillmore	549.8	95.2	92.6	2.6	16.8
Freeborn	449.3	14.1	14.0	.1	3.1
Goodhue	485.1	66.5	64.6	1.9	13.3
Grant	356.5	4.8	4.7	.1	1.3
Hennepin	361.6	31.4	31.4	-	8.7
Houston	361.6	125.9	122.3	3.6	33.8
Hubbard	596.5	445.3	440.6	4.7	73.9
Isanti	282.9	65.0	65.0	-	23.0
Itasca	1,704.3	1,497.0	1,457.7	39.3	85.5
Jackson	446.7	8.1	7.9	.2	1.8
Kanabec	336.0	168.3	166.1	2.2	49.4
Kandiyohi	527.4	34.8	34.4	.4	6.5
Kittson	719.4	121.4	104.3	17.1	14.5
Koochiching	2,002.6	1,861.2	1,521.9	339.3	76.0
Lac Qui Parle	494.7	9.3	9.1	.2	1.8
Lake	1,364.5	1,315.4	1,138.6	176.8	83.4
Lake of the Woods	837.1	649.4	554.9	94.5	66.3
Le Sueur	282.2	25.1	25.1	-	8.9

(Footnotes and continuation of table on back of sheet)

MAINTAINED AT ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

County	Total land area [1]	Forest land [2]			Commercial forest as a percent of county area
		Total [3]	Commercial [4]	Noncommercial [5]	
	M acres	M acres	M acres	M acres	Percent
Lincoln	345.6	2.8	2.8	-	.8
Lyon	456.3	5.7	5.3	.4	1.2
Mahnomen	367.4	144.9	144.9	-	39.4
Marshall	1,152.0	227.3	226.1	1.2	19.6
Martin	452.5	4.2	4.2	-	.9
McLeod	318.7	12.1	12.1	-	3.8
Meeker	396.8	17.1	17.0	.1	4.3
Mille Lacs	363.5	171.6	171.3	.3	47.1
Morrison	727.0	245.3	243.0	2.3	33.4
Mower	449.9	13.4	13.4	-	3.0
Murray	453.1	3.9	3.7	.2	.8
Nicollet	293.8	19.7	19.5	.2	6.6
Nobles	455.7	2.5	2.5	-	.5
Norman	566.4	40.9	40.9	-	7.2
Olmsted	419.2	48.0	47.0	1.0	11.2
Otter Tail	1,280.0	244.5	244.0	.5	19.1
Pennington	398.1	62.8	62.8	-	15.8
Pine	903.7	558.5	526.5	32.0	58.3
Pipestone	297.0	1.2	1.2	-	.4
Polk	1,287.7	110.4	107.7	2.7	8.4
Pope	435.8	14.9	14.8	.1	3.4
Ramsey	102.4	6.8	6.8	-	6.6
Red Lake	276.5	52.9	52.7	.2	19.1
Redwood	559.3	15.2	15.0	.2	2.7
Renville	627.2	16.5	16.5	-	2.6
Rice	316.8	20.9	20.9	-	6.6
Rock	310.4	1.8	1.8	-	.6
Roseau	1,072.6	373.6	370.3	3.3	34.5
St. Louis	4,019.8	3,459.7	3,233.9	225.8	80.4
Scott	225.3	26.0	26.0	-	11.5
Sherburne	280.3	58.5	58.5	-	20.9
Sibley	371.8	19.9	19.8	.1	5.3
Stearns	867.8	94.5	94.0	.5	10.8
Steele	272.0	8.1	8.0	.1	2.9
Stevens	364.8	3.3	3.3	-	.9
Swift	478.1	11.3	11.1	.2	2.3
Todd	606.1	164.7	164.7	-	27.2
Traverse	366.1	2.9	2.9	-	.8
Wabasha	333.4	64.9	61.6	3.3	18.5
Wadena	343.0	140.6	140.6	-	41.0
Waseca	265.6	14.6	14.5	.1	5.5
Washington	249.6	30.8	30.7	.1	12.3
Watonwan	277.1	4.3	4.3	-	1.6
Wilkin	481.3	2.5	2.5	-	.5
Winona	398.7	116.0	110.1	5.9	27.6
Wright	429.5	52.5	52.5	-	12.2
Yellow Medicine	485.1	10.7	10.7	-	2.2
State total	51,205.8	19,343.7	18,097.6	1,246.1	35.3

1/ 1950 Bureau of Census.

2/ All wooded areas, cutover lands, and the intermingled and adjacent open areas obviously suitable for timber production and not devoted to other uses. Excludes woodlands within city limits, rock outcrops, beaches, small lakes, and wooded pastures less than 10 percent stocked with commercial species.

3/ Forest areas of 1 million acres or more have a standard error of less than 1 percent. Standard errors for counties with small forest areas, which were sampled more intensively, will not exceed 5 percent.

4/ Land capable of producing timber of commercial size and quality within 100 years and available now or prospectively for commercial use.

5/ Includes (a) commercially valuable forest land in parks, preserves, etc. withdrawn from timber use, and (b) forest land incapable of producing commercial sawtimber or pulpwood in 100 years but valuable as watershed protection, game cover, and in some cases for growth of such small-size products as Christmas trees and substandard pulpwood.

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